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ARBORICULTURAL DETAILED INSPECTION

Site address:

Fallow Fields, Compton Street, Compton

06 August 2020

Ref: ADI20-1007



- 1 -



ARBORICULTURAL CONDITION SURVEY

Site address: Fallow Fields, Compton Street, Compton

Instructed by: Mrs L Tyson

Prepared by: Thomas Gregory DipArbL4 (ABC) TechArborA

Date: Thursday, 06 August 2020

Report Ref: ADI20-1007

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE

I have been instructed by Mrs Louise Tyson to carry out a detailed inspection of a single walnut tree located in the rear garden of Fallow Fields, Compton Street, Compton.

The purpose is to inspect the tree in order to ascertain its physiological and structural condition along with an assessment of the contribution it makes to the local amenity. The following reports upon that inspection and highlights the recommendations identified from it.

1.2 TREE INSPECTION OUTLINE

Trees are living, dynamic organisms. Their health and overall condition changes as they grow and can be affected by external conditions. For this reason, the arboricultural condition survey and any recommendations given are valid for a period not exceeding one calendar year from the date of issue of this report.

1.3 STATUTORY TREE PROTECTION

The tree in question is located in a Conservation Area and following a recent notification to fell or prune trees in a conservation area (Ref: 20/00937/TPC) a Tree Preservation Order was served. It is strongly recommended that the local planning authority is contacted, and an application submitted and approved (if appropriate) prior to any works being carried out to ensure that no offence is committed.

2 ARBORICULTURAL CONDITION SURVEY

2.1 TIME OF INSPECTION

An inspection was undertaken on the afternoon of Saturday 25th July 2020.

2.2 GROUND AND SITE CONDITIONS

The tree concerned is a semi-mature walnut located within the rear garden of Fallow Fields close to the boundary with Meadow Cottage (marked T1 on the plan).

2.3 VISUAL TREE ASSESSMENT

This semi-mature walnut has a single stem with a diameter of 44cm measured at 1.5m above ground level. It stands at approx. 12m in height with an average overall crown spread of 16m.

At the base of the tree there is a large surface root with a large wound, most likely resulting from repeated impact from a mower over a considerable time. Sapwood is

exposed with visible decay. The buttress roots were sounded with a nylon mallet which suggests there is considerable decay present.

There are a number of historic pruning wounds on the main stem and primary branches ranging from 75mm to 150mm in diameter. Most have occluded over fully but some have only partially occluded with some decay present. The lower stem was sounded with a nylon mallet which suggests that this decay is limited to the branch cone and does not extend up or down the parent stem/branch.

The crown is considerably sparse when comparing with other walnuts in the vicinity (closest being within the neighbouring property on the south west boundary). There is also some minor dieback in the crown with a small volume of minor deadwood present throughout.

2.4 LOCAL AMENITY ASSESSMENT

This semi-mature walnut is located in the rear garden of Fallow Fields, behind a single storey garden room. Along the northern boundary of Fallow Fields is a line of beech trees standing at approx. 16m in height. This boundary backs onto agricultural land over which there are no public rights of way.

The tree in question is partially visible from Compton Street when viewed from the access to Fallow Fields. When viewed from other locations along Compton Street the tree is not highly visible at all. When viewed from the access to Meadow Cottage, the view is obstructed by vegetation, as it is from Little Pensbury. When viewed from the access to Beaver Lodge, one can just about see the top 1-2m of the crown with the line of beech trees to the rear. When viewed from Attwoods Drove and the agricultural land to the north, the view is completely blocked by the beech trees. Photos showing the views from Compton Street can be found in Appendix 2.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 PHYSIOLOGICAL AND STRUCTURAL CONDITION

At the time of inspection, the tree was found to be in fair overall physiological condition with no major structural defects that would require attention in the interests of safety. However, the crown was noticeably sparse and there was decay identified in the surface root and at the pruning wounds throughout the stem. It is clear the tree is stressed and its condition will continue to deteriorate over time, requiring remedial works or removal in the future.

3.2 CONTRIBUTION TO LOCAL AMENITY

The tree is only partially visible from Compton Street at the entrance to Fallow Fields. When viewed from other locations along Compton Street and to the north, the view is either fully obstructed by other vegetation or just the top 1-2m is visible. In addition, directly behind the walnut is the line of beech trees so should this walnut not be present, the view from any angle would be no different.

The walnut in question does not make a significant contribution to local amenity.

3.3 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE MANAGEMENT

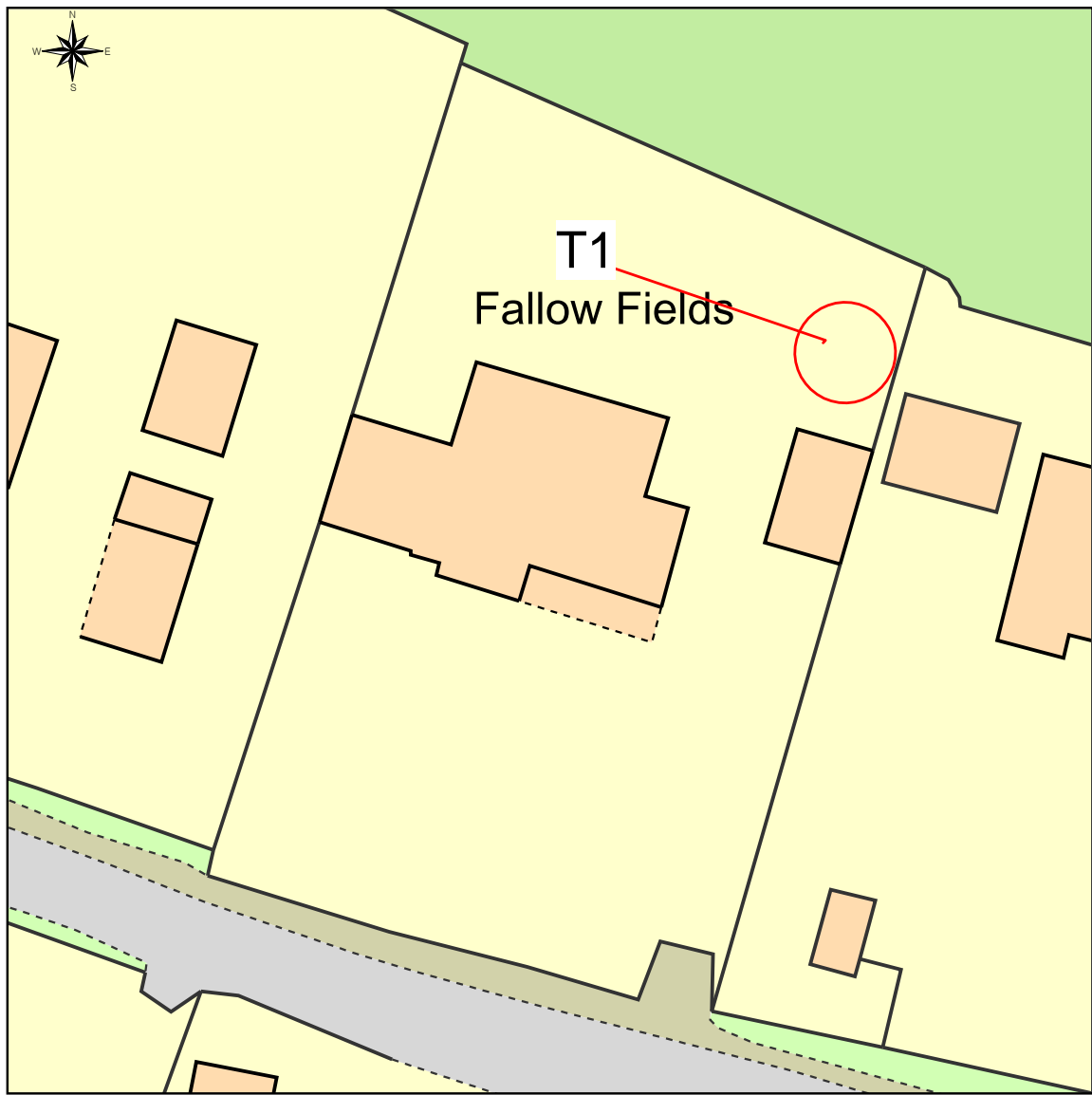
Due to the current physiological and structural condition of the tree, along with its minimal contribution to local amenity and negative impact it is having on the enjoyment of the garden, it is recommended that this tree is removed and replaced with an additional two native species, to include a *Betula pendula* and *Prunus avium* within the grounds of Fallow Fields. The recommendations for planting can be found in Appendix 3 (NB the western boundary of Fallow Fields has recently changed and is no longer as shown on the plan and the *Aesculus hippocastenum* has already been planted).

However, should this tree be retained, it is recommended that it is re-inspected within a period of 12-18 months so as to monitor its physiological and structural condition and ensure the tree is appropriately managed in the interests of safety.

4 APPENDICES

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4.1 APPENDIX 1 – SITE PLAN



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0m 5m 10m 15m 20m 25m 30m 35m 40m

Scale: 1:500, paper size: A4

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NB. plotted tree location is approximate

4.2 APPENDIX 2 – SITE PHOTOS

Photo showing view from Fallow Fields entrance



Photo showing view from Meadow Cottage entrance



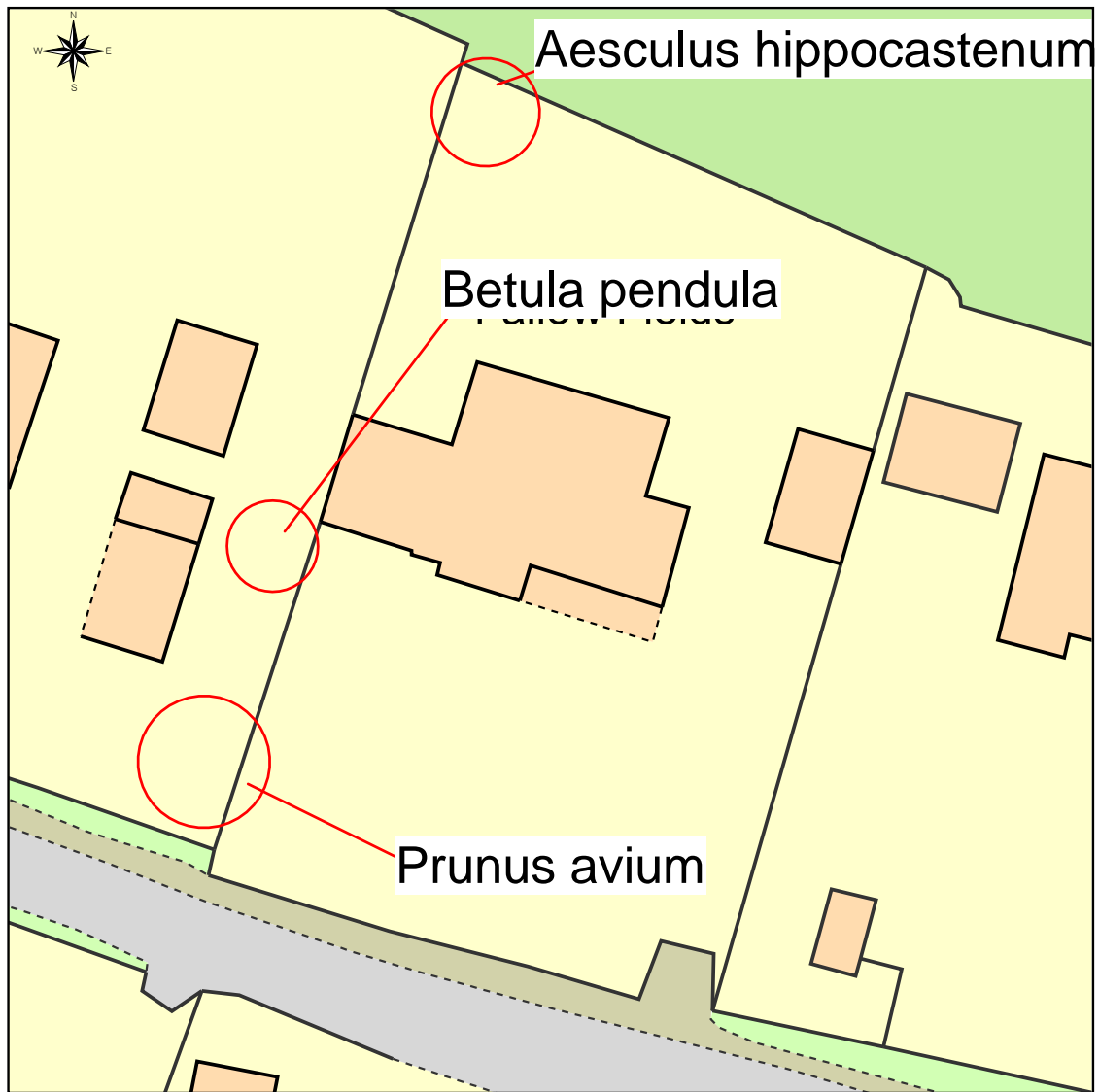
Photo showing view from Little Pensbury entrance



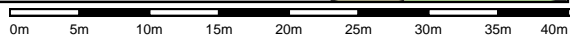
Photo showing view from Beaver Lodge entrance



4.3 APPENDIX 3 – PLANTING PLAN



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